# **Descendants' Committee News**

## by Victor Crosthwaite Contreras

Old Town San Diego Descendants are active in the park in many ways. Some descendants work as Park staff and make it a part of their professional lives to help preserve and share their collective family contributions. Other descendants are involved with activities in the park that include volunteering for special events, fundraising, and as docents or park volunteers.

We would like to acknowledge the previous chairperson of the Descendants' Committee, Elena Orozco. She continues to work hard to serve the Park as a park aide, and has taken the lead with setting up descendants' displays in the Machado Silvas House including the Día De Los Muertos exhibit every year. Georgia Callian and Marsha Snelling are particularly appreciated for their years of involvement. This year the committee has selected Abel Silvas and Victor Crosthwaite Contreras as Co-chairs.

We are looking to increase involvement of descendants within the many activities of the park, and have many new exciting projects planned for the future. We would like to extend an open invitation for anyone interested in preserving their family histories within the context of Old Town San Diego State Historic Park to join us at the Descendants' Committee meetings.

### All are welcome!

**Descendants' Committee Meetings** scheduled the second Sunday of ODD numbered months in the McCoy House Museum at Old Town San Diego State Historic Park at 12:30 pm.

#### 2010

January 31 (Playwright Project meeting)

March 14

May 9

July 11

September 12

November 14

**Descendants' Historical Workshops** are gatherings where the Descendants group shares their private collections of records, books, information resources, sometimes artifacts, and general knowledge about the early settlers of San Diego. Historians as well as knowledgeable descendants are available and enjoy exchanges about the early days of California. Workshops are scheduled at the McCoy House on the following dates from 10:30 am to 4 pm:

#### 2010

March 13

June 26 (Descendants' Luncheon) – Details to follow.

August 14 October 9

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